

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image pickup apparatus comprising:  
an image pickup section which picks up an image;  
a communication section which transmits the  
5 picked-up image to an external device, and which  
receives control information from the external device;  
and  
a processing section which, in a state in which  
the image is displayed on a display screen of the  
10 external device, when a predetermined region on  
the display screen is designated, generates image  
information and transmits it to the external device via  
the communication section in order to display the  
predetermined region in the image, and carries out an  
15 exposure correction with respect to the image to be  
picked up at the image pickup section on the basis of  
the predetermined region.
2. The image pickup apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein, in a state in which the image is  
20 displayed on the display screen of the external device,  
when a predetermined region on the display screen is  
designated, the processing section generates image  
information and transmits it to the external device via  
the communication section in order to display the  
25 predetermined region in the image, and further carries  
out an exposure correction with respect to the image to  
be picked up at the image pickup section on the basis

of the predetermined region after receiving a determination signal from the communication section.

3. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the exposure adjustment of the processing section is carried out by at least one method of an exposure adjustment in which incident light is limited by using an iris mechanism, an exposure adjustment carried out by controlling the operation timing of a solid image pickup element which receives the incident light and outputs a detection signal, and an exposure adjustment carried out by controlling the gain of the detection signal outputted from the solid image pickup element.

4. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the processing section displays the image within the designated predetermined region in the display screen, on the display screen of the external device in a state in which the user can distinguish in the same way as in the other region.

5. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the processing section distinguishes the predetermined region in accordance with a coordinate signal to be provided from a pointing device connected to the external device via the communication section.

6. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an image compressing section which compresses the image picked up by the image pickup section in order to display the image by a browser application at the external device via the communication section.

5           7. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

          at least one of a driving section which drives the image pickup section in the panning direction and a driving section which drives the image pickup section  
10           in the tilting direction.

          8. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the processing section handles only a region in a current display screen showing the image picked up by the image pickup section, in accordance  
15           with a current position of the image pickup section by driving of the driving section, as the predetermined region.

          9. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the processing section discontinues  
20           the exposure adjustment corresponding to the predetermined region when the image pickup section is moved by the driving section.

          10. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the processing section can set the  
25           predetermined region within the range of an image pickup possible screen in which image pickup is possible by a movement of the image pickup section by

the driving section, and thereafter, the processing section carries out an exposure adjustment on the basis of the predetermined region.

11. The image pickup apparatus according to  
5 claim 7, wherein the processing section can set the predetermined region within the range of an image pickup possible screen in which image pickup is possible by a movement of the image pickup section by the driving section, and after the setting, even if the  
10 predetermined region does not exist in the current display screen due to the movement of the image pickup section thereafter, the processing section carries out an exposure adjustment on the basis of the predetermined region.

12. The image pickup apparatus according to  
15 claim 7, wherein the processing section can set the predetermined region within the range of an image pickup possible screen in which image pickup is possible by a movement of the image pickup section by  
20 the driving section, and after the setting, even if the predetermined region does not exist in the current display screen due to the movement of the image pickup section thereafter, the processing section carries out an exposure adjustment on the basis of the predetermined  
25 mined region detected last.

13. An image pickup system having an image pickup apparatus and a control device which are connected by a

network, and a communication section carrying out communication of both thereof, comprising:

5       the image pickup apparatus having an image pickup section which picks up an image, and a processing section which, in a state in which the image is displayed on a display screen of the control device, when a predetermined region on the display screen is designated, generates image information and transmits it to the control device via the communication section  
10       in order to display the predetermined region in the image, and carries out an exposure correction with respect to the image which is picked up at the image pickup section on the basis of the predetermined region; and

15       the control device which receives the image information from the image pickup apparatus via the communication section, and displays it, and which instructs the predetermined region to the processing section of the image pickup apparatus in accordance  
20       with the instruction of the user.

14. The image pickup system according to claim 13, wherein, in a state in which the image is displayed on the display screen of the control device, when a predetermined region on the display screen is  
25       designated, the processing section of the image pickup apparatus generates image information and transmits it to the control device via the communication section in

order to display the predetermined region in the image,  
and further carries out an exposure correction with  
respect to the image to be picked up at the image  
pickup section on the basis of the predetermined region  
5 after receiving a determination signal via the  
communication section.

15. The image pickup system according to claim 13,  
further comprising:

at least one of a driving section which drives the  
10 image pickup section in the panning direction and a  
driving section which drives the image pickup section  
in the tilting direction.

16. The image pickup system according to claim 13,  
wherein the processing section of the image pickup  
15 apparatus can set the predetermined region within the  
range of an image pickup possible screen in which image  
pickup is possible by a movement of the image pickup  
section by the driving section, and thereafter, the  
processing section of the image pickup apparatus  
20 carries out an exposure adjustment on the basis of the  
predetermined region.

17. An image pickup method comprising:

picking up an image; and

in a state in which the image is displayed on a  
25 display screen of an external device via a network,  
when a predetermined region on the display screen is  
designated, generating image information and

transmitting it to the external device via the network  
in order to display the predetermined region in the  
image, and carrying out an exposure correction with  
respect to the image to be picked up on the basis of  
5 the predetermined region.

18. The image pickup method according to claim 17,  
wherein, when a predetermined region on the display  
screen is designated, the exposure correction generates  
the image information and transmits it to the external  
10 device via the network, and after receiving a  
determination signal in accordance therewith, the  
exposure correction is carried out.

19. The image pickup method according to claim 17,  
wherein, when the image pickup section which picks up  
15 the image is moved at least in one of the panning  
direction and the tilting direction, the exposure  
adjustment based on the predetermined region is  
discontinued.

20. The image pickup method according to claim 17,  
20 wherein the predetermined region is set within the  
range of an image pickup possible screen in which image  
pickup is possible by moving the image pickup section  
which picks up the image at least in one of the panning  
direction and the tilting direction, and after the  
25 setting, the exposure adjustment is continued on the  
basis of the predetermined region regardless of the  
movement of the image pickup section.